

The use of clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness information in Medicare

ISSUE: Might cost-effectiveness analysis improve Medicare's ability to be a prudent purchaser?

KEY POINTS: Using information about clinical effectiveness and cost-effectiveness when making coverage decisions or setting payment rates may enhance Medicare's ability to be a value-based purchaser. The draft chapter explores the following issues:

- Can such analyses be used to both promote beneficiaries' access to high-quality health care and help Medicare act as a prudent purchaser?
- Will considering information about clinical- and cost-effectiveness delay beneficiaries' access to new technologies?
- Are there agreed upon standards for designing these studies?

ACTION: Commissioners should review the draft chapter and comment on its tone and conclusions.

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